

BRICKS 'n PIECES



THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE LEGO® CLUB

AUTUMN 1994



The LEGO
CLUB

THE MAN

WITH THE SUITCASE



Most of you will have seen the new LEGO SYSTEM Town television advert this summer, the one with the smuggler being chased and caught by the Police. But did you know how we made that advert?

Here we have the exclusive story for members of the Lego Club on how we make our fantastic TV adverts.

Who makes them?

When we develop a new TV advert a lot of people are involved. Perhaps the most important is the Art Director who thinks up the idea for the "story" and creates what is called the "storyboards", you can see here of one of the early versions for the "man with the suitcase" advert. Then the Producer has to take the storyboard and turn it into the finished advert. For LEGO adverts, the lighting cameraman is very important, they ensure that you can see all the small details which you find on a LEGO brick.



These are the most important people but the process takes up to fifteen people in total.

It usually takes about seven days for us to make a new 30 second advert, the "man with a suitcase" advert involved 22 different scenes to be shot for the final 30 seconds of advert.

Where do you find such small backgrounds?

The backdrops and scenery (mountains, grass etc.) is made from a material called "flamingo" and hand painted according to the storyboard. The sea is a large sheet of plate glass with some blue paper underneath, the sky is made from a seven metre section of painted canvas. Everything else is usually made from LEGO bricks.

Each advert will use about 150 different boxes of LEGO bricks with our special expert LEGO model builders from Denmark building the models you can see in the advert.

Motion Controlled Cameras

The "man with a suitcase" advert filmed in the CELL studios in London, as they have a very special computer controlled camera system which is ideal for this LEGO advert. The Producer decides on a movement for the camera and it is then programmed in and can be repeated again and again, a bit like the LEGO TECHNIC Control Central. This lets the Producer put a lot of different movements together to make one long and complex movement.

THE MAN WITH
THE SUITCASE

The Scene where the smuggler escapes in the speedboat

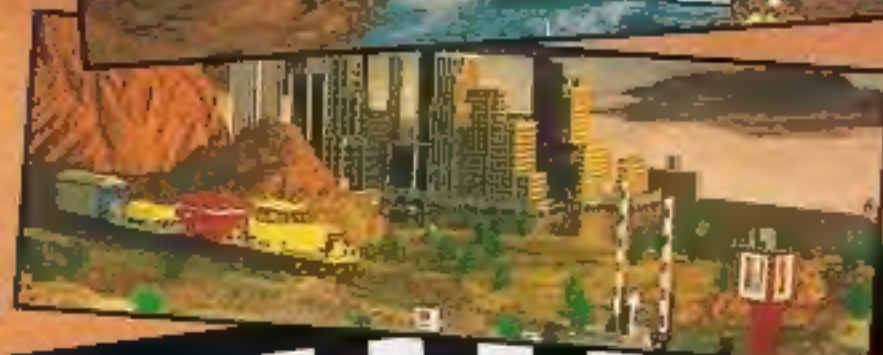
The first camera angle is from the smuggler's point of view to give you, the viewer, the feeling of actually being in the boat and being chased by the Police. We were trying to make the advert a bit more thrilling to watch. The motion control camera which we used for this shot is fascinating, it weighs 2 tons and can move at up to 5 metres per second, it even looks a bit like Robocop.

The Scene where the Hot rod crashes off the jetty

Here we used a special LEGO technique called Magic Building, where models seem to build themselves into other things. Here the Hot rod fell from the jetty, broke into its individual LEGO pieces and then rebuilt itself as a speedboat, which continues the smuggler's escape from Police.

This scene is made a little like a cartoon, each picture or frame is taken one at a time with small changes in between. So when they are put together as a film than they appear to build themselves. Each second of film takes at least 25 individual pictures or frames, this sequence of Magic Building lasts 3 seconds so it needs at least 75 different pictures. The bit where the bricks move through the air they are suspended by wire which is then painted out by a computer later on.

The rest of the film is "live action".



The scene where the smuggler hits the mountain

Sometimes the camera takes up to 100 frames for every second of film. The bit where the smuggler hits the tunnel and is thrown into the air uses this speed of camera. This is so when we used it we could slow it down, if we didn't he would have moved too quick! The scene where he flies through the air was filmed using a large plastic school ruler (like you can use in school to fire ink pellets) and "flicking" the LEGO smuggler with it. We had to film this bit more than twenty times before we got it right, that is over 6,000 pictures.



After the Filming?

When all the filming is finished it is time to edit the film. Here we put all the pictures into a computer in a digital format. This is a similar technique as Steven Spielberg used in Jurassic Park to film his famous lifelike dinosaurs. This lets you "play" around with the pictures, for example we thought about changing the colour of the motorcycle from white to red, but there is not a red motorcycle currently available in the LEGO range, so we could not do that. Finally we add the music and the voices, the voice-over as it is called can be very funny as we try and create the right sound effect to match the action on the screen. The pictures here show some of the strange techniques we use to get the right sound.



H

ere at the LEGO® Club we receive hundreds of photographs every year of models built by Club members.

We thought we'd take a look into the world of photography with a little help from our photographer and our design team.

Professional photography is very complicated and can be expensive but here we show you how to make your LEGO models stand out even

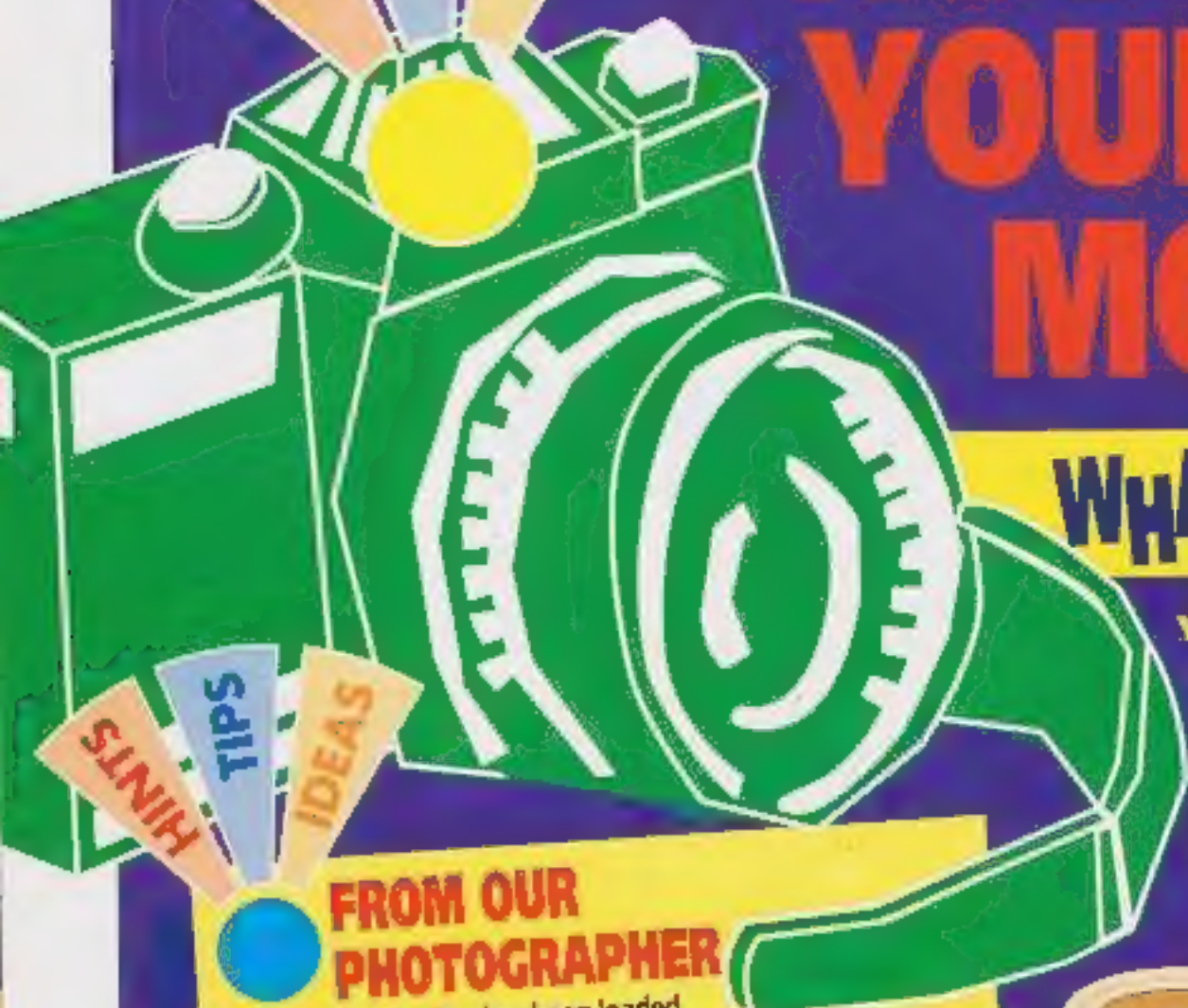
more and that taking photographs can be simple and good fun.

All that you budding photographers will need, apart from a camera, is a few bits and pieces that can easily be found at home.

So follow these simple hints and tips and then get busy with your LEGO bricks. But remember the most important thing is to have as much fun as possible.....GOOD LUCK.



HOW TO PHOTOGRAPH YOUR MODELS



FROM OUR PHOTOGRAPHER

- 1 Check that the film has been loaded correctly - if you're not sure, ask Mum or Dad for help.
- 2 Have a look and see if your camera has special settings for different types of light. These are usually for dull/cloudy or clear/bright sunshine.
- 3 Remember, when taking your photograph, it is important to have a good source of light. For example, if there is no daylight or you are working indoors, you will need a flash. If you want to take your photograph outside, stand with the sun behind you but be careful not to let your shadow get in the way!
- 4 A mirror is very useful for reflecting light. If you look at picture D (indoors) opposite, the right hand side of the model is sharp, and the shadow on the left has been softened.
- 5 Make sure that the camera lens is clean and free from any obstructions.
- 6 Remember to keep your camera steady while you are taking your photograph - you don't want a blurred image!

WHAT YOU WILL NEED!

Your LEGO model - you can make this as simple or as complicated as you like.

A camera - remember, it does not have to be an expensive one - any camera will do!



A large piece of cloth - a plain sheet or towel would do!

One or two cereal boxes - any size will do, these will be covered by the cloth. (see picture opposite)



A large sheet/s of white paper or card

A roll of sticky tape

A free standing mirror - REMEMBER mirrors are made of glass so ask mum or dad for this!





INDOORS



A



B



C



D

- A** First gather everything you need - see our list.
- B** Arrange the boxes and cover them with the cloth - position your model.
- C** Now take your photo - remember to keep a steady hand!
- D** Fingers crossed - your photo should look this good!

INSIDE PHOTOGRAPHS

Choose a room which has a large window, remember it is important to capture as much light as possible, find the brightest room in the house, this could be the kitchen, or even the bathroom!

Choose an area which has enough room for your display, you don't want to be too cramped.

OUTSIDE PHOTOGRAPHS

Dry and sunny days will give best results - but don't worry if it's a little cloudy, you can always change the setting on your camera.

Make sure the backdrop is taped securely - you don't want your model to fall over!

THE SET

As you can see we chose a very simple background - we used two cereal boxes covered with a plain sheet. If you decide to work outside, try to find an interesting feature, such as a wall, tree or fence....the choices are endless.

MEET THE TEAM

- responsible for the photography and design of your Club Magazine



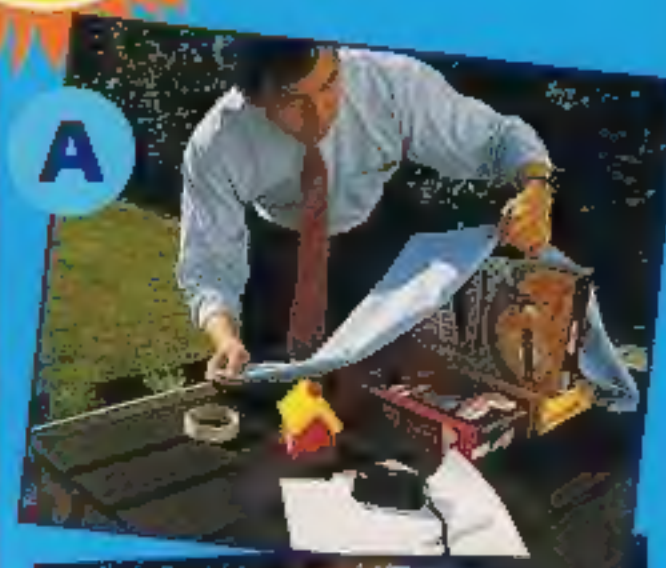
KATE

ROB

HILARY



OUTDOORS



A



B



C



D

- A** First gather everything you need - see our list - check the weather first!
- B** Arrange the boxes and cover them with the cloth - position your model. (Remember the position of the sun!)
- C** Now take your photo - remember to keep a steady hand!
- D** Fingers crossed - your photo should look this good!



1 Andrew Dunn - aged 6 years old built this model of his father when he was building a wall, we like the hammer in his hand.

2 Oliver Ager - aged nearly 13 years old. He has sent us his model of the British Airways Concorde which he spotted at Heathrow airport. He even sat in the pilots seat of the real life plane. On his model he has built in working flaps, tilting nosecone and even the front wheel can be steered.

3 Matthew Marshall - aged 12 years old has built this model of a Vauxhall Frontera Sport. It has steering, a detailed engine and interior and also a smart chrome spare wheel cover.

4 John Charles - aged 5 years old. With a bit of help from his father, John has built this oil rig. He has also created some scenery, which makes his model look much better.

5 John Guly - aged 8 years built this model of a war ship named H.M.S. Monmouth. He got the idea after a visit to Navy Days. We also like the background scenery that John has made for his model.

6 Peter Bolton - aged 7 years old tells us his favourite magazine is Bricks 'n' Pieces, but he also loves the Dandy and Beano, this is why he has built his favourite characters; Desperate Dan and Dennis the Menace.



AUTUMN 19

A "Golden" Master Builders members whose models are photographed of a special model how you built it, and you too if your model is shown in the i

ANOTHER COLLECT WINN

MASTER BUILDER BRICKS

4 Issue 3

Badge is sent to each of the
shown here. If you have a
end it in telling us why and
ould become a Master Builder
e of Bricks n' Pieces.

R GREAT ION OF ERS

7 Andrew Brackenborough - aged 11 years old. Andrew has just returned from his holidays in Blackpool. He built this model of the famous Blackpool Tower, it is the Tower's Golden Jubilee (50 years) this year, so it has been painted gold. Andrew's model even has a working lift and lighting in the ballroom and the tower.

8 Lee Holt - aged 7 years old. He has been doing a project at school on Egypt and King Tutankamen. He then built this model of the death mask which is constructed of mainly Basic Bricks.

9 James Robinson - aged 9 years old has built Tower Bridge in London for a competition at his school. He won first prize with his model. It measures 69cm long and 27cm tall. It took him 2 weeks to complete this excellent model.

10 Richard Powell - aged 7 years old built his model of a snowman, because there wasn't enough real snow. At least this one will not melt, he will be able to look at it all years round.

11 Steven Gray - aged 8 years old has built a model of a clock using his Mum's LEGO collection. She had quite a collection when she was in school, and has now given it to Steven and his brother.

12 David Marshall - aged 6 years old. He has a toy Rupert Bear which he loves very much. He built a model of this bear, using the correct colour bricks. His sister Nicola helped him with it.

Well done!





HERE ARE A FEW IDEAS FOR HALLOWE'EN & CHRISTMAS

Y

es, it will soon be "that time of year again"!

Imagine how busy it gets here just before Christmas - making sure that all the shops have all the LEGO® sets that you're going to ask for!

On a more serious note, please don't put a real candle in or anywhere near the LEGO Christmas lantern and Hallowe'en masks - it won't do you or your LEGO much good!

try placing the beam of a torch at the back of the TECHNIC mask in a darkened room. You'll get some interesting effects. Have a fun Hallowe'en and Christmas. See you in the New Year!

Elaine



CHRISTMAS SHOW IN DUBLIN

This Christmas will see the arrival of the brand new "Treasure Hunt" show in Arnotts Department Store in Dublin. This new show will be open to the public from 28th November through to Christmas Eve (24th December!) and admission is FREE. Some of you will know that the Christmas LEGO Show in this Henry Street department store is a regular event in Dublin and attracts thousands of people from across Ireland. The "Treasure Hunt" Show features the LEGO Islanders, their "gods" etc all in exciting jungle scenes. You can follow Professor Stanley and his young assistant George on their dangerous journey through the jungle, BUT will they find the treasure? Watch out the jungle holds many secret dangers for strangers.



SOME MORE MASTER BUILDER AWARDS

Many of you have sent in photographs of your models of Father Christmas which you have built during the year. As Christmas will soon be with us we have kept them to show in this edition of the magazine.



James & Alice Howells
Devizes, Wiltshire



Natalie & Adam Davies
Gosport, Hants



Potter Bergman
Charley, Lancs

WALL of FAME

We are unable to print all the photos you send in, so we have a Wall of Fame for those members who also deserve a special mention.

- Edward Robson
Greetland, Halifax
- Mark McGovern
Rathfarnham, Dublin
- Thomas & Michael Frobel
Liverpool
- Stewart McMythurs
Horfield, Bristol
- Joshua Mercier
Waterlooville, Hampshire
- Tom Brook
Norwich, Norfolk
- Edward Marks
Halifax, West Yorkshire
- Thomas Bramall
Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands
- Jonathan Smith
New Milton, Hampshire
- Thomas Freeman
Polstead, Colchester
- Steven Glover
Croston, Lancashire
- Trevelyan Hocking
Hayle, Cornwall
- Simon Nottingham
Grange Over Sands, Cumbria
- Paul Bailey-Green
Sutton Coldfield, West Midlands

Well done to all the other members who have sent in photos of their models. We are only sorry we cannot print them all.

THE GREAT LEGO SHOW 1994



This year's summer LEGO Show in Bournemouth - The Great LEGO Show has been a resounding success with thousands of people coming to view the huge displays. As well as getting their hands on the thousands of bricks in the massive Castle building area, some of the constructions were even worthy enough for the Master Builder page of Bricks 'n' Pieces.

We know that quite a lot of you managed to come and see the Show, we hope you enjoyed it and made use of the free entry for LEGO Club members.

The show even attracted the interest of the summer holiday TV programme on the

Children's Channel - Fun Factor 10.

A whole TV crew came down to film the Show and the host of the programme - Mark - ran a building competition for some of the kids who were there on the day to win a LEGO SYSTEM Town Sea Patrol.

CALCULATOR PUZZLES

Gemma Oldham from Marchwood near Southampton has sent us some very good calculator puzzles and we have chosen some of them for you to try.

See if you can work them out.

$$518 - 5 + 1 = 514$$

The man and --- gang went to town

$$15,469 \times 5 = 77,345$$

Found by the sea

$$7,417 - 312 = 7,105$$

You grow plants in it

NEW LEGO STICKER SHEET



Watch out for the
NEW LEGO sticker sheets
- see Club Shop page
for details

SPYRIUS

COMPETITION WINNERS

After sorting through hundreds of entries from club members who entered the Spyrian Spot the Eye Competition we have chosen the ten lucky winners with the correct answer of 13 pairs of eyes.

Congratulations to the winners and well done to everyone else who entered.

- Richard Oliver - Tenbury Wells, Worcs
- Ferne Harvey - Tunbridge Wells, Kent
- Janine Levison - Forres, Moray
- Tom Bouquet - South Molton, Devon
- Alastair Rodger - Congleton, Cheshire
- Catherine Potterton - Chiddingfold, Surrey
- Robert Macleod - Bieldside, Aberdeen
- Conrad O'Dwyer - Straffan, Co Kildare
- Liam Burnston - Bridgend, Mid Glamorgan
- Jonathan Bute - Prestatyn, Clwyd

1000	MUG	£2.95
1001	RULER	.65
1002	PEN	.65
1003	LETTER PAD	£1.20
1004	BLUE CAP	£2.20
1005	BLACK CAP	£2.20
1006	RUCKSACK	£5.95
1007	SATCHEL	£7.50
BLUE POLO SHIRT		
1008	AGE 5-6 CHEST 27"	£6.99
1009	AGE 7-8 CHEST 29"	£6.99
1010	AGE 9-11 CHEST 31"	£6.99
1011	AGE 12-14 CHEST 33"	£7.99
(this price includes VAT)		
1021	INDIGO ISLAND KEYRING	.95
1022	INDIGO ISLAND PATCH	.30
1023	LEGO CLUB BADGE	.75
YELLOW SWEATSHIRT		
1024	AGE 5-6 CHEST 26/28"	£8.99
1025	AGE 7-8 CHEST 30"	£8.99
1026	AGE 9-11 CHEST 32"	£8.99
1027	AGE 12-14 CHEST 34"	£8.99
BLACK SWEATSHIRT		
1028	AGE 5-6 CHEST 26/28"	£8.99
1029	AGE 7-8 CHEST 30"	£8.99
1030	AGE 9-11 CHEST 32"	£8.99
1031	AGE 12-14 CHEST 34"	£8.99
1032	SPYRIUS KEYRING	.95
1036	FATHER CHRISTMAS	.50
1461	SPACE BUGGY	.99
1462	RACING CAR	.99
1499	SPACE EXPLORER	£1.99
1040	* LEGO CLOCK	£9.95
1041	LEGO STICKERS	.50
POSTAGE AND PACKING		.60

WIN A HOLIDAY TO LEGOLAND® Park in Denmark

Sponsored by Specialised Tours & Maersk Air



PRIZE

The lucky winner will travel to Denmark by Maersk Air scheduled from London Gatwick Airport to Billund, the home of LEGOLAND Park. The flight takes approximately one hour and thirty minutes on a Boeing 737 jet aircraft. Two nights will be spent in Hotel LEGOLAND with breakfast and buffet dinner included. All rooms have private facilities, TV, Radio, Telephone and hair dryer, free admission to the local swimming pool next door is included. The hotel has direct covered access to the LEGOLAND Park with guests having unlimited access throughout their stay. There is also £150 spending money, return standard rail fare to Gatwick and holiday insurance included.

The prize is for a family of up to four people and can be taken any time between May and September, subject to availability.

Specialised Tours LEGOLAND Park Holidays

SPECIALISED TOURS have been organising holidays to LEGOLAND for LEGO Club members for the past fourteen years, perhaps the first tour operator to offer such holidays in the UK.

Their brochure contains a comprehensive range of air, fly-drive, motoring and coach options, ranging from weekend breaks to full length summer holidays. There is a choice of high quality hotels, farmhouses and self-catering accommodation in and around LEGOLAND and other parts of Denmark.

You could combine a holiday to LEGOLAND Park with a visit to Copenhagen, where you can enjoy the magical Tivoli Gardens. Many other two or three centre holidays are featured in the brochure, but holidays can also be tailor made to your exact requirements. For your copy of the 1995 brochure please telephone - 0342-712785 or write to:-

Specialised Tours, Bramfield House, Copthorne Bank
Copthorne, Crawley, Sussex RH10 3JD

Scandinavian Seaways

Scandinavian Seaways also offer a range of tours to Denmark with a number including visits to LEGOLAND Park. All of their tours are on their luxury ships travelling from Harwich or Newcastle. For further information please contact them on the following telephone number: 0255-240240.

HOW TO ENTER

You just have to answer the following questions, all the answers can be found in this issue of Bricks 'n' Pieces. Just fill in your answers, cut out the coupon and return it to us at the LEGO Club.

QUESTIONS

1 How long does the flight take from Gatwick Airport to Billund Airport?

Answer _____

2 What colour is the helicopter in the new LEGO® SYSTEM City Airport set 6397?

Answer _____

3 Which airline flies direct to Billund from Gatwick?

Answer _____

4 How long have Specialised Tours been running tours to LEGOLAND Park?

Answer _____

5 What is the name of the person who gives you the Building Ideas in Bricks 'n' Pieces?

Answer _____

6 Which English seaside resort hosted the Great LEGO Show this Summer?

Answer _____

TIE BREAKER Please complete this tie breaker phrase in no more than 30 words:
I like LEGO bricks because _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POST CODE _____

Please return to: The LEGO Club, Ruthin Road, Wrexham, Clwyd LL13 7TQ

We have received a few questions regarding the new items in the pack, so we will try to answer them here.

Q I joined in April but my friend joined in August and she received different things in her pack. Why did I not get the Fun Book?

ANSWER We have to make changes in the pack, to make sure that our members keep getting new items each year. The fun book was introduced in July/August, so when you renew your membership, in April next year, you will receive your copy then.

Q Can I buy the Fun Book?

ANSWER We have decided not to sell the Fun Book, as it will be included in all renewal packs until August next year. There would be no fun if you had already seen and finished all the puzzles. That is the bad news, but the good news is, that the new full page stickers are available for sale (see the Club Shop page).

Q I am due to renew my membership very shortly, will I get a different membership card?

ANSWER After a long time we have changed the design of the membership cards, so when you renew, you will get the super new card showing our new Club logo. New members will also get these new cards.

We will continue to make changes to the items that you receive as part of your membership and hope that you will all enjoy them when you renew for another great year as a LEGO Club member. That's what makes being a member such fun!

THE LEGO CLUB, President: CLIVE NICHOLLS,

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